IN THE SPECIFICATION

The following amendments have been made to the specification:

Please amend the paragraph [0035] in the specification, as follows:

[0035] If, however, the transmitting equipment receives an NACK, the HARQ technique is used for the re-transmissions. If Chase protocol is employed, then the same Chase packet is retransmitted [[(50)]]. Consequently, the receiver in combination with the previously received failed transmission(s) decodes each received Chase packet. Similarly IR protocol may also be employed (60). For the purposes of the present disclosure, a Chase function and an IR function each refer to the application of a Chase or IR protocol, respectively.

Please amend the paragraph [0038] in the specification, as follows:

[0038] If, on the other [[hands]] hand, a NACK is sent, the failed error coded streams (for example, failing a cyclic redundancy check) are processed according to the protocol employed, and the receiving equipment waits for the next error coded streams to be transmitted and received. Thusly, if one or more of the failed error coded streams comprises a Chase protocol, then the failed Chase packet(s) is combined with the next received Chase packet(s) (50) corresponding with that failed error coded stream(s), as sent by the transmitting equipment in response to the NACK. Similarly, if one or more of the failed error coded streams comprises an IR protocol, then the failed IR sub-packet (s) is stored and combined with the next received IR sub-packet(s) (60) corresponding with that failed error coded bit stream(s), as sent by the transmitting equipment in response to the

NACK.

Please amend the paragraph [0040] in the specification, as follows:

[0040] In response to performing this independent cyclic redundancy checking, a confirmation message is sent (130) for each error coded stream. If one or more error coded streams pass their independent cyclic redundancy checking step, an ACK message is sent (140) by the receiving equipment for that error coded stream(s). In contrast, a NACK message is sent (150) by the receiving equipment for each error coded streams failing its independent cyclic redundancy checking step. For each NACK message sent, the corresponding failed error coded stream is processed according to the protocol employed, and, thereafter, the receiving equipment waits for the next error coded bit streams to be received. If one or more of the failed error coded bit streams comprises a Chase protocol packet(s), then the failed Chase packet(s) is combined with the next received Chase packet(s) (160) corresponding with that failed error coded stream(s), as sent by the transmitting equipment in response to the NACK. Similarly, if one or more of failed error coded streams comprises an IR protocol, then the failed IR sub-packet(s) is stored and combined with the next received IR sub-packet(s) (170) corresponding with that failed error coded stream(s), as sent by the transmitting equipment in response to the NACK.

With regard to Figures 3 and 4, Applicants again respectfully request that a conventional interaction between the coding/decoding and MIMO coding/decoding is intended. That is, the presence of feedback connections shown from the channel

decoders (CRC decoders and/or Chase/IR combining decoders) to the MIMO decoders provides a typical feedback connection usually employed in this type of architecture, as one of ordinary skill in art would appreciate. Likewise, in the treatment of mixed "confirmations" for multiple error coded streams, a conventional operation is intended. Accordingly, for brevity, the Applicants believe that an explanation of the readily known feedback connections in Figures 3 and 4 and the treatment of mixed "confirmations" for the streams function are considered unnecessary in the Applicants' specification.